

**UNITED STATES COURTS  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**POLICY REGARDING ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

June 6, 2008

The general public is prohibited from bringing cameras, pagers, cellular telephones, personal data assistants (PDA's), laptop computers, tape recorders, and other electronic devices into any United States Courthouse in the District of Massachusetts. Persons bringing these devices into the courthouse must check them at the security screening station in order to gain access to the building. Attorneys who present a valid bar card from any jurisdiction, together with two valid forms of identification, at least one with a photograph, are permitted to bring PDA's, laptop computers, and cellular telephones into the courthouse for business use. Attorneys carrying these items will be required to submit them for x-ray and such other examination as deemed appropriate by court security personnel. Laptop computers with silent keyboards may be used in the courtroom with the prior permission of the presiding judge. Cellular telephones and PDA's must be turned off or placed in silent mode while in the courtroom. Violation of this provision may result in severe sanctions. Cellular telephones may only be used in public areas of the courthouse no less than twenty feet from the entrance to any courtroom. Attorneys are reminded that the recording of court proceedings by any electronic or photographic means is strictly forbidden.

Members of the public invited to after court-hours public events are permitted to bring cellular telephones into the Boston Moakley Courthouse. Public events are held after 6:00 PM on weekdays, weekends, and federal holidays.

/s/ Richard G. Stearns

Honorable Richard G. Stearns  
United States District Judge  
Chair, Court Security Committee

/s/ Yvonne Bonner

Yvonne Bonner  
United States Marshal